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Mr. Felix Belair, Jr. The New York Times 1920 L Street, N. W. Washington, D. C. 20036

Dear Mr. Belair:

With reference to your note of 28 August, there is a misunderstanding contained therein. My letter of 23 August addressed itself only to the information that was requested in your letter of 31 July. And of your 31 July requests, not all were refused declassification. As we said in our letter of 23 August, we were not able to locate documents fitting your descriptions of materials concerning Laos.

You asked to be furnished the reasons "why the Agency finds it necessary that 'the documents in question must remain classified'". The documents concerning Chinese troop strength at the time of the Chinese intervention in the Korean War, as well as those regarding termination of the Greek Civil War, were judged to involve intelligence sources and methods and thus to fall within Exemption (2) of Section 5(B) of Executive Order 11652.

I hope this information will be of use to you.

Sincerely,

/s/ Angus MacLean Thuermer
Angus MacLean Thuermer
Assistant to the Director

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